



Ladies of SCI:

Write Your Lawmakers Guide – Faith Focused

As people of faith, we are called to seek justice, advocate for the vulnerable, and be a voice for those who may not have one. Our elected legislators have a responsibility to represent us and the values we hold dear. Writing to them may feel overwhelming at first, but it is one of the most impactful ways to share our concerns and encourage them to act on issues that align with our faith and moral convictions.

Your message does not have to be long or complex. Simply express **why** you are writing and **why** it is important to you from a faith perspective. If you are comfortable sharing how the issue affects you or someone you care about, it helps lawmakers better understand its significance. Keep your message **brief, factual, and heartfelt**, making it easier for legislators to engage with and act upon.

Suggestions for Writing Your Letter

1. **Begin with a greeting and introduction.** Mention who you are and that you are writing from a faith-based perspective.
2. **State why you are writing.** Connect your concern to your faith values, such as justice, mercy, and compassion.
3. **Share what an Ombudsman office would mean to you.** Has there been a time when this office could have helped you, your loved one, or someone in your faith community?
4. **Express how this aligns with biblical principles.** Use scripture or faith-based reasoning to support your request.
5. **Thank the legislator for their time and service.**
6. **End with your full name, address, email address and phone number.**

Example Letter to a Legislator:

Dear Representative/Senator [Last Name],

I am writing to you as a person of faith who believes in justice, compassion, and accountability. Scripture calls us to "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute" (Proverbs 31:8). I urge you to support the establishment of an Ombudsman office for Corrections to ensure that individuals who are incarcerated, as well as their families and correctional staff, have an independent resource for advocacy and accountability.

My loved one is currently incarcerated, and I have seen firsthand how difficult it can be to have concerns properly heard and addressed. Having a separate, neutral office to investigate these concerns would provide transparency and ensure that all individuals—regardless of their circumstances—are treated with dignity and fairness.



Ladies of SCI: Write Your Lawmakers Guide – Faith Focused

As a person of faith, I believe in redemption, accountability, and second chances. I am asking you to support this effort so that we can move toward a more just and compassionate correctional system.

Thank you for your time and for your dedication to serving our community. I will be praying for you as you consider this important issue.

Sincerely,
[Your Full Name]
[Your Address]
[Email Address]
[Your Phone Number]

Writing to the Governor:

The Governor has the power to establish an Ombudsman office by Executive Order. You can follow the same guidelines above, but address your message to the Governor. Below is an example of a faith-based appeal for this action.

Example Letter to the Governor

Dear Governor Evers,

As a person of faith, I believe that justice and accountability are central to a healthy society. The Bible tells us in Micah 6:8 that we are to "act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God." I urge you to use your Executive power to establish an Ombudsman office for the Department of Corrections as a necessary step toward justice and oversight.

Our correctional system is in crisis, and an Ombudsman office would provide an independent resource to address serious concerns and bring transparency to a system that deeply affects individuals, families, and communities. Many other states and even the federal government have successfully implemented similar offices. It is time for Wisconsin to do the same.

You have the power to make an immediate and lasting impact on the lives of those in our prison system—both incarcerated individuals and the staff who work with them. I ask you to prayerfully consider this step toward justice, fairness, and accountability.

Thank you for your service to our state. You are in my prayers as you lead and make important decisions for our communities.

Sincerely,
[Your Full Name]
[Your Address]
[Email Address]
[Your Phone Number]